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December 14, 2018

The Honorable John B. Larson
U.S. House of Representatives
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support for the Social Security 2100 Act

Dear Representative Larson,

The Arc of the United States (The Arc) is pleased to offer its strong support for the Social Security 2100 Act. We are deeply grateful for your leadership in introducing this important legislation to strengthen our nation's Social Security system.

The Arc is the largest national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We have more than 650 state and local chapters across the United States.

Our nation's Social Security system provides a foundation of financial security, insuring nearly all workers and their families in the event of a worker's retirement, death, or qualifying disability. Social Security benefits are modest, but invaluable. Beneficiaries - including people with disabilities - use their Social Security to pay for food, housing, utilities, health care, and other basics. The Social Security 2100 Act makes much-needed enhancements to Social Security benefits, including:

- An across-the-board increase for all beneficiaries of approximately 2 percent;
- Adoption of the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E) for the purpose of determining annual cost-of-living adjustments for all Social Security beneficiaries;
- An increase in the threshold for taxation of Social Security benefits to \$50,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for joint filers, up from \$25,000 and \$32,000 respectively; and
- An increase in the special minimum benefit to 125 percent of the poverty level for an individual, indexed to average wage levels in future years.

Achieve with us.

In addition, the Social Security 2100 Act ensures that people who also need Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, or the Children's Health Insurance Program do not lose these necessary benefits or see reduction in these benefits, as a result of the bill's increases in their Social Security benefits.

Finally, the Social Security 2100 Act strengthens Social Security's finances: the bill not only pays fully for all benefit improvements, but also extends solvency for decades. The bill also streamlines Social Security by creating a single trust fund, reflecting the unified nature of the retirement, survivors, and disability system.

In closing, The Arc thanks you for your leadership in introducing the Social Security 2100 Act to strengthen our Social Security system for current and future beneficiaries, including people with disabilities and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marty Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marty Ford
Senior Executive Officer